

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 03635 01 OF 02 161800Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 HA-05 DOE-15
SOE-02 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 OPIC-03 AID-05 /122 W
-----114897 161846Z /72

R 161649Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5729
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL
COMUSFORAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LISBON 3635

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PINT, PO
SUBJECT: PCP EMPHASIZES MODERATION

1. PCP EMPHASIZES DEMOCRATIC DIALOGUE: IN A MAY 15
PRESS CONFERENCE, PCP SECRETARY GENERAL ALVARO CUNHAL
PROPOSED THE CREATION OF A DEMOCRATIC PATRIOTIC BLOC OF
PARTIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS TO DEVELOP AN
ALTERNATIVE TO THE PS/CDS GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING
TO CUNHAL, SUCH AN ALTERNATIVE MUST ASSURE THE CONTINUITY
OF A DEMOCRATIC REGIME AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE; PROMOTE
MATERIAL AND CULTURAL WELL-BEING; SPARK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;
AND CREATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES BY WHICH PORTUGAL CAN OVERCOME
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 03635 01 OF 02 161800Z

THE CURRENT CRISIS.

2. TEN-POINT PROGRAM: AS THE BASIS FOR A NATIONAL
DIALOGUE, THE PCP PRESENTED A TEN-POINT PROGRAM WHICH CALLS
FOR:
--RESPECT FOR AND DEFENSE OF THE STABILITY OF THE DEMOCRATIC
INSTITUTIONS ENSHRINED IN THE CONSTITUTION;

--EFFECTIVE GUARANTEES FOR THE EXERCISE OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES THROUGHOUT PORTUGAL;
--DEFENSE OF NATIONAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY;
--MAINTENANCE WITHOUT ALTERATION OF THE CURRENT PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR STRUCTURE;
--MOBILIZATION OF NATIONAL RESOURCES AND ENERGIES TO OVERCOME THE CURRENT CRISIS;
--AUSTERITY AND THE HUSBANDING OF RESOURCES;
--IMPROVEMENT IN THE STANDARD OF LIVING FOR THE WORKERS AND THE MIDDLE CLASS;
--DEMOCRATIC AND PROGRESSIVE EDUCATIONAL REFORM AND THE PROMOTION OF A CULTURAL POLICY AT THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE;
--THE UNITY OF THE ARMED FORCES AND MILITARY STABILITY;
AND,
--DIVERSIFICATION OF FOREIGN RELATIONS PREDICATED ON A POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH ALL NATIONS.

3. THE MODERATE LINE: CUNHAL EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS WOULD WELCOME THE COLLAPSE OF THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT, THEY WILL NOT LAUNCH SPECIFIC CAMPAIGNS TO PROVOKE ITS DEMISE. IN A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS, PCP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADER CARLOS BRITO EMPHASIZED THAT THE PCP IS PURSUING A POLICY OF RESPONSIBLE OPPOSITION WHICH HAS THE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT OF THE PARTY RANK AND FILE. ACCORDING TO BRITO, RESPONSIBLE OPPOSITION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LISBON 03635 01 OF 02 161800Z

IS PURSUED:

--IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WHERE THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP PRESENTS ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS TO MAJOR GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES; WEIGHS LEGISLATIVE ITEMS ON THEIR OWN MERIT, AND REJECTS SYSTEMATIC OPPOSITION;
--IN THE COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT WHERE THE PARTY POSITION IS PRESENTED CANDIDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY;
--ON THE SHOP FLOOR WHERE PCP ACTIVISTS GUARD AGAINST MANAGERIAL ABUSES WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY; AND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 03635 02 OF 02 161805Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 HA-05 DOE-15
SOE-02 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 OPIC-03 AID-05 /122 W
-----114942 161846Z /72

R 161649Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5730
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION USNATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL
COMUSFORAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LISBON 3635

--IN THE STREETS WHERE THE PARTY CONTINUES TO EXERCISE ITS
LEADERSHIP ROLE ON BEHALF OF THE MASSES WITHIN DEMOCRATIC
NORMS. BRITO EMPHASIZED THAT EXTREMISTS ON THE LEFT AND
RIGHT ARE TRYING TO CAPITALIZE ON WORKER AND MIDDLE CLASS
DISCONTENT GENERATED BY MISGUIDED GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC
POLICIES. SUCH POLICIES INCLUDE THE RECENT IMF AGREEMENT
WHICH, IN BRITO'S WORDS, IS A CLASSIC PRESCRIPTION FOR
DEPENDENCE.

4. COMMENT: THE PCP'S CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC
DIALOGUE, BRITO'S EMPHASIS ON RESPONSIBLE OPPOSITION, AND
CUNHAL'S UNWILLINGNESS TO LAUNCH A FRONTAL ASSAULT TO BRING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 03635 02 OF 02 161805Z

DOWN THE GOVERNMENT ALL TRACK WITH THE PCP'S OPPOSITION
TACTICS SINCE THE FORMATION OF CURRENT PS/CDS GOVERNMENT.
THE COMMUNISTS KNOW FULL WELL THAT A PRECIPITIOUS GOVERNMENT
CRISIS NOW COULD USHER IN A GROUP OF SUCCESSORS CONSIDERABLY
TO THE RIGHT OF SOARES AND COMPANY. WITH THE PSD OPPOSITION
IN DISARRAY AND THE GOVERNMENT PREOCCUPIED WITH TRYING TO
IMPLEMENT AN ASSUREDLY UNPOPULAR STABILIZATION PROGRAM,
THE PCP CAN CONTINUE TO EXPLOIT POPULAR DISCONTENT UNDER
THE MANTLE OF RESPONSIBLE OPPOSITION FOR THE PARTY'S OWN
GAINS.
BLOOMFIELD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPPOSITION PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LISBON03635
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780206-1127
Format: TEL
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780555/aaaabued.tel
Line Count: 170
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c94cc19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2679865
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PCP EMPHASIZES MODERATION
TAGS: PINT, PO, PCP, (CUNHAL, ALVARO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c94cc19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014